

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) An isolated ragweed protein or peptide fragment thereof comprising an amino acid sequence wherein said amino acid sequence is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, and SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the protein of claim 1.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) A diagnostic composition for detecting pollen allergy comprising the protein of claim 1.

Claims 4-13 (Canceled)

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) An isolated ragweed pollen protein allergen or peptide fragment thereof substantially free of any other pollen proteins wherein said ragweed pollen protein is characterized by the following physiochemical and biological properties: a) being contained in pollen extracts, b) a glycoprotein, c) a sulfhydryl group containing protein, d) a molecular weight about 30,000 as determined by SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis and e) possessing allergen activity.

Claim 15 (Canceled)

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the allergen of claim 14.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented) A diagnostic composition for detecting allergic diseases which comprises as the active ingredient a diagnostically effective amount of the allergen of claim 14.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented) The diagnostic composition of claim 17 wherein said allergen is ragweed pollen.

Claims 19-21 (Canceled)

Claim 22 (Currently Amended) A therapeutic composition comprising an ~~antigenic~~ fragment of a ragweed pollen allergen Ambt 7 wherein said ~~antigenic~~ fragment comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, and SEQ ID NO:11 wherein said ~~antigenic~~ fragment comprises at least one epitope of said pollen allergen and a pharmaceutically effective carrier.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented) The therapeutic composition of claim 22 wherein said epitope is a T cell epitope.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented) The therapeutic composition of claim 22 wherein said epitope is a B cell epitope.

Claims 25-31 (Canceled)

Claim 32 (Currently Amended) A kit for detecting Ambt7 pollen allergen comprising one or more ragweed proteins wherein said one or more proteins comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, and SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 32 further including protein detection components.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 32 wherein said protein detection components include antibodies.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 32 further including directions for use of the kit.

Claims 36-46 (Canceled)

Claim 47 (New) The isolated ragweed peptide of claim 1, wherein said peptide is contained within a fusion protein.

Claim 48 (New) The isolated ragweed protein or peptide fragment of claim 14 wherein said protein or peptide is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, and SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 49 (New) The isolated ragweed protein or peptide fragment of claim 48 wherein said protein or fragment is contained within a fusion protein.

Claim 50 (New) The therapeutic composition of claim 22, wherein said fragment is contained within a fusion protein.

Claim 51 (New) The isolated ragweed protein or peptide fragment of claim 1 wherein said ragweed protein is characterized by the following physiochemical and biological properties: a) being contained in pollen extracts, b) a glycoprotein, c) a sulfhydryl group containing protein, d) a

molecular weight about 30,000 as determined by SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis and e) possessing allergen activity.